The California Public Records Act (the CPRA) was enacted in 1968 to safeguard the accountability of government to the public; promote maximum disclosure of the conduct of governmental operations; and explicitly acknowledge the principle that secrecy is antithetical to a democratic system of "government of the people, by the people and for the people."

Effective January 1, 2023, Assembly Bill 473 (AB 473) recodifies and reorganizes the provisions of the California Public Records Act (CPRA). AB 473 is intended to make it easier for the public to use and understand the CPRA by reducing the length and complexity of current CPRA sections, better organizing them, and eliminating duplicative provisions. The changes to AB 473 are nonsubstantive (i.e. it do not change the laws codified in the CPRA).

For ease of use, the California Law Revision Commission website created a disposition table, which may be found here, to help the public and agencies use the old CPRA code sections to find the new ones. The League of California Cities also updated their guidebook "The People's Business: A Guide to the California Public Records Act", to reflect the changes in AB 473, which may be found here.